GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3960
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001
INCOME TAX APPELLATE TRIBUNALS
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to strengthen the Income Tax Tribunal for quick disposal of cases;

(b) the number of cases pending with Income Tax Appellate Tribunal till date; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the number of pending cases during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) The number of Benches have already been increased from 38 to 53.

(b) The number of cases pending as on 1.12.2001 was 2,17,669.
(c) Apart from increasing the number of benches from 38 to 53, the following steps have also been taken for quick disposal of cases:-

(i) Limit of Rs.1 lakh has been enhanced to Rs.5 lakhs for appeals to be heard by a Member sitting singly.

(ii) Conferment of Single Member Case (SMC) powers on the Members of the Tribunal who have put in more than five years of service.

(iii) Identification of cases involving issues already settled by High Courts/Supreme Court.

(iv) Grouping of cases involving common issues.

(v) Organizing Camp Benches at places where there is no Bench.

(vi) Sending of Members on tours to stations where there is shortage of Members.